

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and in what manner the same is proposed to be implemented; and

(c) if not, what is the latest progress in the matter and by when a final decision is likely to be arrived at in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) A proposal to increase the Foreign Direct Investment limit in the Insurance Sector from 26% to 49% is under consideration of the Government.

Impact of strikes on Public Sector Banks

2175. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of inconvenience, loss and erosion of market to the Public Sector Banks due to frequent occurrences of strikes in Government owned banks; and

(b) what are the steps initiated to avert this kind of stalemate in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) It is not possible to estimate the inconvenience, loss and erosion of market to the Public Sector Banks due to strikes.

(b) A statutory body *viz.* Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) in Government is in place to negotiate with the employees to avert this kind of stalemate.

Grants to Bihar

†2176. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide 90 percent grant to Bihar under the Externally Aided Projects; and

(b) if so, the details of grants provided to States each year during the last three years?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.